

Summer 2012 EcoAdventures Program Packet





Miami-Dade Parks & Recreation EcoAdventures Summer Programs 2012



Castellow Hammock Park

22301 SW 162nd Avenue
Miami, FL. 33170
(305) 242-7688 (O)
(305) 242-7690 (F)

Crandon Park

6767 Crandon Boulevard
Key Biscayne, FL. 33149
(305) 361-6767 Ext. 112 (O)
(305) 365-8434 (F)

Deering Estate at Cutler

16701 SW 72nd Avenue
Miami, FL. 33157
(305) 235-1668 Ext. 242 (O)
(305) 254-5866 (F)

Pelican Harbor Marina

1275 NE 79th Street Causeway
Miami, FL. 33138
(305) 361-6767 Ext. 112 (O)
(305) 365-8434 (F)

Reservations & Confirmations

It is important to schedule your field trips well in advance as dates fill up quickly.

When you call to reserve a program, a registration form will be created and either emailed or faxed to you for your signature. A completed registration form must be received in our office to confirm your program date. **Your date will only be reserved and guaranteed once we have received a completed and signed registration form in our office.** A confirmation packet will be sent to your facility after receiving a registration form, it will include your confirmed date and for all aquatic programs, a swim test form and safety waivers. Please arrive on time to ensure your group experiences the complete program or notify us if you will be delayed. If we are not informed of your delay, your program will still end at the scheduled end time.

Teachers, Camp Counselors and Chaperones

- **Land-based Adventure Programs:** We require there be at least one adult chaperone for every ten participants (1:10). There is no charge for teachers or the required number of chaperones except at Deering Estate. Adults over the required number of chaperones will be charged the program fee.
- **Aquatic Adventure Programs:** We require there be at least one adult chaperone for every six participants (1:6). There is no charge for the required number of chaperones. Chaperones must participate in the aquatic program so please dress accordingly.

Chaperones, not park naturalists, are responsible for the behavior, discipline and safety of their group. Please be observant and safety conscious to prevent accidents from occurring.

Cancellation Policy

The EcoAdventures program sites may cancel programs and activities when weather or other circumstances beyond our control make it necessary. Every attempt will be made to reschedule your field trip date. **Please be aware that no-shows or cancellations made less than 24 hours prior to the field trip will require full payment of the program fee.** Programs will be conducted rain or shine. However, they will be postponed at the first sign of lightning. **ALL CANCELLATIONS NEED TO BE IN WRITING TO THE PROGRAM SITE EMAIL LISTED IN THIS PACKET.**

Payment

Cash, check, credit card or journal entry (JE) payments are accepted. For journal entry (JE) payments, please make sure the field trip leader/counselor brings the appropriate code or have your facility call the appropriate program site with the (JE) code prior to your field trip date.

Important Conditions

It is absolutely necessary for participants to inform the trip leader of any medical conditions that may require attention during the program. For **Aquatic Programs**, Miami-Dade County regulations require lifejackets to be worn at all times by all participants (this includes participating counselors). For each participant, safety waivers and swim test forms must be turned in to the park naturalist upon arrival. All participants are required to have passed a swim test conducted by a lifeguard prior to the field trip date. Naturalist guides must be informed of any non-swimmers, as these students will not be allowed to participate in the water-based program.

Important Conditions for Crandon Park's Aquatic Programs: Programs that involve snorkeling sometimes experience seasonal waves of jellyfish and man-o-war. We will not snorkel if the park lifeguards determines that high numbers of these venomous creatures make it unsafe. Anyone with hyper-allergic reactions to bites or stings should not go in the water during these periods.

Required Attire: Participants will be outside, so have them dress appropriately for the weather. Closed-toed shoes are required by participants and chaperones. Play clothes are recommended, because the children may get dirty during some of the activities. Make sure the children have sun protection and bug repellent. Water bottles are strongly recommended. For aquatic activities, please make sure each participant brings a bathing suit, towel, closed-toed shoes (that can get wet). Participants and chaperones will not be allowed to participate in any activity if wearing flip-flops or other open-toed shoes.

Lunch

Picnic tables will be provided for your group. Participants must bring their own lunch. We recommend that lunches be packed in a way that the chaperones or individual participants can easily transport them to the assigned lunch area. Restrooms are located near the lunch area at Crandon Park and Deering Estate. Feeding of animals is strictly prohibited. Please help keep our park clean and litter free for other visitors and wildlife.

Individuals with Special Needs

Our park staff will make every effort to meet your group's program needs. Please inform the park staff of any special needs or considerations when making a reservation for your program.

Park Manners

Loud noises keep animals in hiding and reduce your chances of seeing them. Therefore, be kind to the animals and plants at the park. Harassing wildlife is against the law and can harm the animals. Feeding the animals encourages them to be dependent on humans, which leads to increased chances of humans being bitten by that animal. Plants require their leaves to make food and their flowers to produce seeds so please do not pick the leaves, flowers, or bark of the plants.

Please make sure this information is relayed to all participants and trip supervisors.



Castellow Hammock Park

Summer EcoAdventures 2012

22301 SW 162nd Ave., Miami, FL 33170

305-242-7688 Office / 305-242-7690 Fax

rcarmon@miamidade.gov



Archery Outreach

Let our certified Archery instructor give your children a lesson in this skill. Our instructor will set up a safe archery range at your facility, give lessons and then allow for your participants to shoot at different targets at various distances. Appropriate for ages 9-14.

Duration of program: 2 hours

Program Fee: \$7 per participant

Maximum: 60 participants



Crandon Park

Summer EcoAdventures 2012

6767 Crandon Blvd., Key Biscayne, FL 33149

305-361-6767 Ext. 112 Office / 305-365-8434 Fax

ksolms@miamidade.gov



Aquatic Programs

Kayak Workshop

There is simply no better way to experience the beauty of the clear waters of Key Biscayne and its rich marine life than from the seat of an ocean kayak. Join our naturalists as they teach your group the basis skills required for kayaking. Participants will get an opportunity to practice their new skills. Chaperones are required to participate (1:6 ratio). Lead chaperone must bring a completed swim test log. Closed-toed shoes are required for participants and chaperones. **MUST pass swim test and bring proof to participate.**

Duration of program: 2 hours, including 30-minute lunch break at provided park shelter (No additional fee).

Program Fee: \$9 per participant (County Parks) / \$15 other organizations

Maximum: 30 participants

Snorkeling Workshop

Embark on a program like no other as you explore the best of both worlds on a barrier island. Participants will trek along the Bear Cut Preserve beach with one of our naturalists and then explore the underwater shallow habitats of the island. Wildlife viewings are a plenty on this adventure. Masks and snorkels are provided. Chaperones are required to participate (1:6 ratio). Lead chaperone must bring a completed swim test log. Closed-toed shoes are required for participants and chaperones. **MUST pass swim test and bring proof to participate.**

Duration of program: 2 hours, including 30-minute lunch break at provided park shelter (No additional fee).

Program Fee: \$9 per participant (County Parks) / \$15 other organizations

Maximum: 30 participants

Land-based Programs

Crandon Adventure

This program is perfect for younger campers! It includes a day of fun at the park where students can observe local wildlife on an open-air tram ride through Crandon Park. Participants will also have time in the amusement area where they will have access to a playground, water play area (depending on water restrictions) and our restored historic carousel. Appropriate for ages 6 - 9.

Duration of program: 3 hours, including 30-minute lunch break at provided park shelter (No additional fee).

Program Fee: \$7 per participant

Maximum: 80 participants (Tram Capacity: 40 participants per tram ride)

Orienteering Adventure

Called "the art of map and compass reading," orienteering is a fun way to exercise and build wilderness survival skills. The object of orienteering is to find markers with the aid of a map and compass. A instructor will teach the basics of orienteering and participants will have a chance to test their newfound knowledge in a 1 mile course set up at Crandon Park's Bear Cut Preserve. The beginner level course, takes approximately 1 - 1½ hours to complete. Appropriate for ages 9-14.

Duration of program: 2 hours, including 30-minute lunch break at provided park shelter (No additional fee).

Program Fee: \$7 per participant

Maximum: 30 participants

Sea Turtle Adventure

Explore the wonders of these ancient creatures by visiting an important nesting beach in South Florida. Participants will take a walk along the natural beach of Bear Cut Preserve where they will learn how to identify a sea turtle nest and learn how sea turtles construct their nests. Program includes a 45 minute presentation. Appropriate for all ages (Ages: 6-14).

Duration of program: 3 hours, including 30-minute lunch break at provided park shelter (No additional fee).

Program Fee: \$7 per participant

Maximum: 60 participants

Outreach Programs

Ocean Outreach (Traveling Touch Tank)

Sea stars, Conchs and Sea urchins! Oh My! Explore the seagrass ecosystem through a presentation and a hands-on touch tank of some of the amazing critters found there. Learn a few of the commonly found creatures as well as the different types of seagrass. Appropriate for all ages (Ages: 6-14)

Outreach Presentation: 1 hour

Program Fee: \$7 per participant

Maximum: 40 participants per presentation

Sea Turtle Outreach

Explore the wonders of these ancient creatures that visit our South Florida beaches. Learn more about these ancient animals, what they eat, why they come to our shores, and where they are found through a presentation conducted by one of our knowledgeable naturalists at your location. Have a chance to touch sea turtle artifacts such as shells, skulls, and the different items that they eat (sponges, corals, etc).

Appropriate for all ages (Ages: 6-14)

Outreach Presentation: 1 hour

Program Fee: \$7 per participant

Maximum: 40 participants per presentation



Deering Estate at Cutler

Summer EcoAdventures 2012

16701 SW 72nd Ave, Miami, FL 33157

305-235-1668 Ext. 242 Office / 305-254-5866 Fax

salvare@miamidade.gov



Deering Estate at Cutler will be offering the following summer programs for visiting groups. Participants will have the opportunity of choosing two activities, one from group 1 and one from group 2, or two activities from group 2. (Activities from group 1 cannot be combined with another activity from the same group)

Group 1: Please choose one of the following activities and combine with one from group 2:

Option A: Ichthyology Program

Participants will learn about the world of fishes, their special adaptations and more through a fish dissection.

Appropriate for ages 9 & up.

Duration of program: 1 hour

Program Fee: \$7 per participant

Maximum: 60 participants (Divided into two groups)

Option B: Animal Adaptations

Participants will learn about the best adaptations found in the animal kingdom while observing preserved and live animals to compare the features that allow these animals to survive in their environment. Appropriate for all ages.

Duration of program: 1 hour

Program Fee: \$7 per participant

Maximum: 60 participants (Divided into two groups)

Option C: Catching Critters

Visit the Deering Estate at Cutler and learn about Biscayne Bay and our marine neighbors that make the bay their home. Seine with nets for different types of marine animals, use marine friendly buckets to identify the various creatures that live in our aquatic back yards, and interact with the wonderful natural environment that borders our Miami-Dade County community. What an adventure! Chaperones are required to participate (1:6 ratio). Lead counselor must bring a completed swim test log. Closed-toed shoes are required for participants and chaperones. MUST pass swim test and bring proof to participate. Appropriate for ages 7 & up.

Duration of program: 1.5 hours

Program Fee: \$7 per participant

Maximum: 60 participants (Divided into two groups)

Option D: Beyond our Eyes

Come and discover the wonderful world beyond our eyes. Using microscopes, participants will learn the different parts of the microscopes and will observe different specimens and objects. Appropriate for ages 9 & up.

Duration of program: 1 hour

Program Fee: \$7 per participant

Maximum: 60 participants (Divided into two groups)

Group 2: Please choose one of the following programs and combine it with activities from group 1 or you can choose 2 activities from this group as your combination.

Option E: Archaeology Dig

Participants will learn about the Tequesta and other early settlers by excavating our disturbed midden for artifacts and animal remains. Appropriate for all ages.

Duration of program: 1.5 hours

Program Fee: \$7 per participant

Maximum: 60 participants (Divided into two groups)

Option F: Historic House Tour

Participants can enjoy walking through the beautiful historic buildings: The Richmond Cottage and the Stone House and learn about the historic town of Cutler and Charles Deering. This is a great field trip option and a wonderful alternative on a rainy day visit. Appropriate for all ages.

Duration of program: 1.5 hours

Program Fee: \$7 per participant

Maximum: 60 participants (Divided into two groups)

Option G: Wonders of the Sky

Participants will learn about bird anatomy and behavior. Using binoculars, participants will go on a bird watch around the Estate to identify different adaptations in birds and to learn how those are related with the habitat they are found. Appropriate for all ages.

Duration of program: 1.5 hours

Program Fee: \$7 per participant

Maximum: 60 participants (Divided into two groups)



Pelican Harbor

Summer EcoAdventures 2012

1275 NE 79th Street Causeway, Miami, FL 33138

(First left after bridge)

305-361-6767 Ext. 112 Office / 305-365-8434 Fax

ksolms@miamidade.gov



Biscayne Bay Bonanza

In this program, children will get a view of Miami from a boat on Biscayne Bay. With dolphins and manatees swimming nearby they will learn how our growing city not only affects the environment, but can affect us as well. Program consists of a boat tour on Biscayne Bay with two participants getting a chance to be a boat captain, Pelican seabird station visit, and a game on the island after the lunch break. Closed-toed shoes are required for participants and chaperones. Each group needs to bring their own supply of water.

Appropriate for all ages.

Duration of program: 3 hours, including 30-minute lunch break.

Program Fee: \$8 per participant

Maximum: 40 participants (Boat capacity: 40 Participants and 6 Chaperones)

Program is only available on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.